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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/701,881	11/05/2003	Robert A. Guenther	200309963-1	6718

22879 7590 03/13/2006

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EXAMINER

PARRIES, DRU M

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2836

DATE MAILED: 03/13/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

<b>Office Action Summary</b>	<b>Application No.</b> 10/701,881	<b>Applicant(s)</b> GUENTHER ET AL.	
	<b>Examiner</b> Dru M. Parries	<b>Art Unit</b> 2836	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

**Status**

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 05 November 2003.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**.                      2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

**Disposition of Claims**

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-28 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-28 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

**Application Papers**

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 05 November 2003 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119**

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All    b) ☐ Some    \* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

**Attachment(s)**

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)  | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)   | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)             |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>11-5-03</u> . | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____  |

## **DETAILED ACTION**

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102***

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

2. Claims 1, 3-4, 7, 11, 17, 24-25, and 27 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Prior Art (Admission). Admission teaches a power source (+48V), a first set of isolated converters (105), a plurality of subsets of non-isolated converters (110) and an interleaved intermediate bus (130) to supply independent and redundant input to the second set of converters from the first set of converters. (Fig. 1)

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

4. Claims 5, 6, 12-15, 20-23, 26, and 28 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Prior Art (Admission). Admission teaches a power source (+48V), a first set of isolated converters (105), a plurality of subsets of non-isolated converters (110) and an

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interleaved intermediate bus (130) to supply independent and redundant input to the second set of converters from the first set of converters. (Fig. 1) Admission fails to teach the intermediate bus configured without fault protection components. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to omit the fault protection components from the intermediate bus, since it has been held that omission of an element and its function in a combination where the remaining elements perform the same functions as before involves only routine skill in the art. *In re Karlson*, 136 USPQ 184. Admission also fails to teach the intermediate bus forming multiple independent buses and connecting each bus as a one-to-one relationship with each converter in each of the plurality of subsets of converters. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to form the intermediate bus into multiple independent buses and connecting each bus as a one-to-one relationship with each converter in each of the plurality of subsets of converters, since it has been held that rearranging parts of an invention involves only routine skill in the art. *In re Japikse*, 86 USPQ 70.

5. Claims 2 and 16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Prior Art (Admission) as applied to claims 1, 11, and 13 above, and further in view of De Rooij et al. (2004/0125618). Admission teaches the power distribution system described above. Admission fails to explicitly teach what is inside the power converters. De Rooij teaches a power converter comprising a power transformer. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to incorporate a power transformer into all of the converters in Admission because De Rooij teaches converters comprising transformers and Admission is silent as to what the converter comprises.

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6. Claims 8-10, 18 and 19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Prior Art (Admission) as applied to claims 1 and 17 above, and further in view of Barnsdale, Jr. et al. (4,685,056). Admission teaches the power distribution system described above.

Admission also teaches the non-isolated converters being selectively combined to generate one or more selected output levels. Admission fails to explicitly teach the system being embedded into a computer system and supplying output power to logic devices. Barnsdale teaches a power supply system embedded in a computer system, and supplies power to logic devices (Abstract). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to place Admission's power distribution system into the computer system of Barnsdale because it is shown that power needs to be supplied to computer systems and Admission's system would be a good system to supply that power due to the multiple output power levels that could be used for various logic devices needing different supply voltages.

### ***Conclusion***

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Dru M. Parries whose telephone number is (571) 272-8542. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday -Thursday from 8:00am to 5:00pm. The examiner can also be reached on alternate Fridays.


If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Brian Sircus, can be reached on 571-272-2800 x 36. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

DMP

2-27-2006



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